

# News Release

## FRANCHISE TAX BOARD

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June 2, 2006

File 06-27

*For Immediate Release*

## State Tax Information More Accessible

*Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese, and Spanish Electronic Publications*

*Available – More Soon*

Continuing its effort to make services accessible to more taxpayers, three state income tax publications have for the first time been translated into Chinese, Korean, and Vietnamese, announced the Franchise Tax Board (FTB) today.

“California’s government should serve all Californians. These translations will help millions of Californians save time and money,” said State Controller and FTB Chair Steve Westly.

“Several years ago I spearheaded the effort at the Board of Equalization to translate publications into 21 different languages,” said Chair of the State Board of Equalization, and FTB Member John Chiang. “It’s imperative that government respond to the needs of California’s greatest strength – our diverse population. In addition to the publications, FTB employees will be on hand to answer questions in Chinese, Korean, and Vietnamese.”

The electronic forms available are the *California Taxpayers’ Bill of Rights* (FTB 4058C), the *Franchise Tax Board Privacy Notice* (FTB 1131), and the *Innocent Spouse – Relief From Paying California Income Tax* pamphlet (FTB 705). In the past, the FTB has made a few publications in Spanish.

A fourth publication that will be available shortly in Chinese, Korean, and Spanish is the electronic version of the *Homeowner and Renter Assistance Booklet* (FTB 9000/9000R). This publication will be online June 15, ahead of the program’s filing period that begins July 1. The Homeowner and Renter Assistance Program provides a once-a-year payment from the state based on the property taxes paid on your home to qualified homeowners and renters. For the 2006 claim year, eligible homeowners can receive a payment of up to \$472.60, while renters can receive up to \$347.50.

The FTB offers tax help from several sources. Our Website, [www.ftb.ca.gov](http://www.ftb.ca.gov), is the best source of assistance. Available 24/7, 365 days a year, the site includes FAQs, tax forms, and a *Contact Us* page. Our customer service representatives are available year-round Monday through Friday, from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at (800) 852-5711. FTB employees who speak these four languages will be available to answer questions. There are also six field offices open from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. in Los Angeles, Oakland, Sacramento, San Diego, San Francisco, and Santa Ana.

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